

Message Text

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UNCLAS BONN 10151

DOE FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY THORNE AND BERGOLD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, GW
SUBJECT: VISIT OF DOE ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROBERT
THORNE AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY NELSON SIEVERING
TO COLOGNE, MAY 24, 1978

1. PURPOSE OF THE VISIT WAS TO VISIT IMPORTANT PRO-
DUCTION FACILITIES IN COAL MINING, REVIEW DEVELOPMENTAL
PROJECTS IN COAL CONVERSION AND MEET WITH KEY OFFICIALS
OF THE BMFT.

2. WITH DR. H. TEGGERS OF RHEINBRAUN AS HOST AND
GUIDE, MESSRS. THORNE, SIEVERING AND VENER TOURED THE
OPENCAST MINE NEAR COLOGNE, INSPECTED THE PRESSURIZED
WINKLER PILOT PLANT AT FRECHEN, STUDIED THE
HYDROGASIFICATION, GASIFICATION AND NUCLEAR-GASIFICA-
TION AT WESSELING AND REVIEWED THE VARIOUS NEW COAL
CONVERSION PROGRAMS OF RHEINBRAUN AND ITS PARENT
COMPANY RWE. AREAS OF CURRENT AND POSSIBLE FUTURE
COOPERATIVE EFFORTS WERE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL.

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3. OFFICIALS OF RHEINBRAUN, INCLUDING OUR DIRECT
HOSTS DR. H. TEGGERS AND P. SPEICH, WERE VERY PLEASED
THAT MESSRS. THORNE AND SIEVERING WERE ABLE TO SCHEDULE
THIS VISIT AND FELT THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WERE VERY
VALUABLE.

4. A SEPARATE MEETING WITH MESSRS. THORNE, SIEVERING AND VENER WAS ARRANGED IN THE EVENING IN COLOGNE, ATTENDED BY DRS. SCHMIDT-KUESTER AND ZIEGLER OF BMFT AND HOLIGHAUS OF JUELICH. SUBJECTS DISCUSSED INCLUDED POSSIBLE COOPERATION ON COAL LIQUEFACTION, METHANOL CONVERSION TO GASOLINE AND COMBINED CYCLE-COAL GASIFICATION FOLLOWED BY GAS AND STEAM TURBINE OTHER SUBJECTS INCLUDED THE PROPOSED DOE COAL REFINERY, THE SAARBERG-OTTO PROCESS, THE GE VERY HIGH TEMPERATURE TURBINE AND FLUIDIZED BED COMBUSTION.

5. THE SCOPE OF DISCUSSIONS WAS VERY LARGE AND THE GERMANS WERE IMPRESSED WITH MR. THORNE'S GRASP OF DETAILS ON THESE PROJECTS. A SEPARATE LETTER HAS BEEN POUCHED BY VENER DETAILING THESE DISCUSSIONS. STOESSEL

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